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In Reply, Please Refer to
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105-3558

Miami, Florida
January 15, 1962

RE: CUBAN REBEL ACTIVITIES IN CUBA
INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA

There is summarized in this memorandum information received from various sources concerning current rebel activities in Cuba. A table of contents for this memorandum is set forth below.

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ENCLOSURE

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RE: CUBAN REBEL ACTIVITIES IN CUBA

C. REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT OF THE
PEOPLE (MRP)

REYNOL GONZALEZ, an underground leader of the MRP who uses the name "ANTONIO" directed a letter dated October 1, 1961, from Havana, Cuba, to JOAQUIN GODOY and IGNACIO MENDOZA, leaders of the MRP in the United States. In this letter GONZALEZ furnished information regarding activities in Cuba in September, 1961. He indicated that the MRP underground in Cuba was active in the field of sabotage having planted 25 bombs throughout the City of Havana during one night. He mentioned that the MRP in Cuba was using a plastic bag containing a chemical mixture similar to live phosphorous, which was difficult to handle and that their detonators were old and corroded. He mentioned that the "GEL" that they had been using was "C-3" which had a peculiar odor and that it was, therefore, quite evident that the MRP underground was working under most adverse conditions. He noted that despite the controls exercised by the CASTRO regime, the MRP continued to engage in sabotage activity without hesitation. But he objected to the fact that the underground was forced to use home-made material without any effective aid in the form of equipment from abroad. J.S.A.

On November 28, 1961, MM T-3, a Cuban exile residing in Akron, Ohio, made available information which had been received by a friend of his in a secret ink message dated November 8, 1961, at Havana, Cuba. According to MM T-3, the writer of this message was one GASTON ACOSTA RUE, who was using the "war name" of JAVIER REGO, the name which appeared as the sender on the envelope in which this letter was mailed. This secret ink message stated that nearly all of the MRP leadership had been made prisoners. One of the leaders, "ANTONIO" had been "tortured in the cold room" and nearly died and sodium pentathol had been used by the

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in the revolution to overthrow the BATISTA regime, at which time he was also fighting in the hills. He served as a lieutenant in the rebel army of FIDEL CASTRO but after the arrest of Comandante HUBERT MATOS, who was respected by RAMIREZ, RAMIREZ went to the hills with three or four friends to join other anti-CASTRO forces there. Ultimately, other guerrilla fighters were wiped out while RAMIREZ survived and as a result, he has become somewhat of a legend among the anti-CASTRO Cubans in Cuba. According to MM T-4, RAMIREZ does not have the intellectual capacity to be a future leader of state, but is a fighter, non-political, and commands the respect of his men. (S)(u)

MM T-4 stated that while he had heard rumors regarding small groups of guerrillas operating in the provinces of Oriente and Pinar del Rio, the group of OSVALDO RAMIREZ is the only one which he knows to exist. (S)(u)

On November 20, 1961, HECTOR FEBLES, 785 North-west 101st Street, Miami, Florida, a representative of the UR in Miami, advised that he had just received a communication from a source of the UR in Cuba who had been contacted by a person representing OSVALDO RAMIREZ. FEBLES stated that according to this information, RAMIREZ was then in the Hills of the Escambray with approximately 800 men and in dire need of food and ammunition. FEBLES said that the person who was second in command to RAMIREZ had made an attempt to leave Cuba by boat in early November to obtain help for the group from the United States, but that he had been forced to return to Cuba by bad weather conditions.

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VI. LIAISON BETWEEN UNDERGROUND GROUPS IN
CUBA WITH UNITED STATES

MM T-2, previously mentioned, advised on November 21, 1961, that the DRE in Cuba had no means of communication with Cuban exiled groups in the United States and that in fact it was for this reason that he had personally come to the United States.

BERNARDO LLERENA, previously mentioned, furnished substantially the same information regarding communication between rebel groups in Cuba and those in the United States.

HECTOR FEBLES, previously mentioned, advised on November 30, 1961, that personal courier was the only means of communication existing between the Cuban underground groups in Cuba and the Cuban exiles in the United States. He related that messages from Cuba are either sent by means of friendly foreign embassy personnel or are carried by fleeing Cuban exiles.

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VII. EVALUATIONS OF PRESENT STATUS OF UNDERGROUND GROUPS

HECTOR FEBLES, previously mentioned, advised on November 30, 1961, that based on information which he has been receiving from contacts of his in Cuba, it is apparent that the underground groups there are generally not functioning with any coordinated plan. He said that some groups were completely wiped out by the anti-underground measures of the CASTRO regime in April, 1961, while those that survived were seriously disorganized. He said that the leadership which remains in Cuba is having great difficulty maintaining contact with the membership cells and that this lack of communication is causing the deterioration of many groups.

FEBLES advised that as of that time he was unable to furnish the identities of any of the leaders of the underground in Cuba. He said that this was partly due to the fact that arrests and executions have radically changed the leadership in almost all of the groups and that furthermore, he did not feel free to identify any person continuing to operate in the underground in Cuba.

Regarding the political sympathies of the underground groups in Cuba, FEBLES stated that the UR, of which he was a member, was composed mainly of small, non-political organizations with a tendency toward the "right." He said that the MRP and the 30th of November organizations have tendencies toward the "left" and that many of the members of these groups would continue to support FIDEL CASTRO if he would merely sever his ties with the Soviet Union. FEBLES mentioned that the MRP has suffered an almost complete loss of leadership and is not a serious factor in the Cuban underground.

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FEBLES advised that the DRE is one group which has apparently managed to survive the effects of the arrests of April, 1961, and that this group is probably as active as any in Cuba at this time. He stated that the UR, which is a smaller organization, has been working in collaboration with the DRE. FEBLES stated that an estimate of the strength of the UR or any of the other underground groups would be nothing more than a guess at this time.

In December, 1961, MM T-6, a Cuban exile residing in San Juan, Puerto Rico, made available a letter he had received from his uncle regarding conditions in Santiago, Oriente Province, Cuba. In this letter, his uncle commented that "each day our activities are more limited." He said that the so called Vigilance Committees in each block control what food is left in the country and that anyone not belonging to the Committee is considered a counterrevolutionary. The people of Cuba are living in fear of arrest and execution without trial, and while a high percentage of the citizens have joined organizations which are in opposition to the regime, "modern airplanes" are needed to fight "these people."

On December 13, 1961, Captain CARLOS TORRES DE NAVARRA, 2137 Southwest 12th Street, Miami, Florida, was interviewed and identified himself as a Cuban pilot who had flown for Cubana Airlines from January, 1935, until the end of 1958. When FIDEL CASTRO took over the government of Cuba in January, 1959, TORRES lost his position with the airlines. He said that he remained in Cuba and in 1959 began working with various anti-CASTRO groups. He said that after a number of attempts, he was able to obtain permission to leave Cuba and arrived in Miami, Florida, on December 5, 1961. TORRES stated that he had been restricted by the CASTRO regime

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